

**Maine Revised Statutes**  
**Title 22: HEALTH AND WELFARE**  
**Chapter 1603: CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES PRESCRIPTION MONITORING**

**§7253. PRESCRIBERS AND DISPENSERS REQUIRED TO CHECK PRESCRIPTION MONITORING INFORMATION**

**1. Prescribers.** On or after January 1, 2017, upon initial prescription of a benzodiazepine or an opioid medication to a person and every 90 days for as long as that prescription is renewed, a prescriber shall check prescription monitoring information for records related to that person.

[ 2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) . ]

**2. Dispensers.** On or after January 1, 2017, a dispenser shall check prescription monitoring information prior to dispensing a benzodiazepine or an opioid medication to a person under any of the following circumstances:

A. The person is not a resident of this State; [ 2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) . ]

B. The prescription is from a prescriber with an address outside of this State; [ 2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) . ]

C. The person is paying cash when the person has prescription insurance on file; or [ 2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) . ]

D. According to the pharmacy prescription record, the person has not had a prescription for a benzodiazepine or an opioid medication in the previous 12-month period. [ 2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) . ]

A dispenser shall notify the program and withhold a prescription until the dispenser is able to contact the prescriber of that prescription if the dispenser has reason to believe that the prescription is fraudulent or duplicative.

[ 2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) . ]

**3. Exception; hospital setting and facilities.** When a licensed or certified health care professional directly orders or administers a benzodiazepine or opioid medication to a person in an emergency room setting, an inpatient hospital setting, a long-term care facility or a residential care facility, the requirements to check prescription monitoring information established in this section do not apply.

[ 2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) . ]

**4. Violation.** A person who violates this section commits a civil violation for which a fine of \$250 per incident, not to exceed \$5,000 per calendar year, may be adjudged.

[ 2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) . ]

**5. Rulemaking.** Notwithstanding section 7252, the department may adopt routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to implement this section.

[ 2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) . ]

**SECTION HISTORY**

2015, c. 488, §9 (NEW) .

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